



# WATCH OWCH

## OFFICE OF WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S HEALTH

JANUARY 2005

### Arizona Department of Health Services

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#### Inside this issue:

Women's Health Site 1  
Rape Prevention 1  
Domestic Violence 2  
Child Care Health 3  
HRPP 3  
Child Fatality 4  
Recall Information 5  
OWCH New Programs 6  
New Employees 6

### National Women's Health Database Now Available

The Office on Women's Health (OWH) in the US Department of Health and Human Services and the National Women's Health Information Center (NWHIC) are proud to announce the launch of their new and comprehensive National Women's Health Indicators Database. This is a FREE online tool, which can be accessed at [www.4woman.gov/statedata](http://www.4woman.gov/statedata) or through the NWHIC site at [www.4woman.gov](http://www.4woman.gov).

NWHID contains extensive health data from the year 2000 for the entire United States, and some data from additional years. This database will be updated on an annual basis in order to keep up with

current trends and health facts, and has been developed as a free tool for your use. This new online resource can benefit anyone looking for current and reliable health statistics such as health professionals, researchers, members of the press, and consumers. National, regional, state, and county data are available, and can be stratified concurrently by gender, race/ethnicity, and age.

This database includes statistics on: demographics, mortality, access to care, infections and chronic disease, reproductive health, maternal health, mental health, prevention, and violence and abuse.



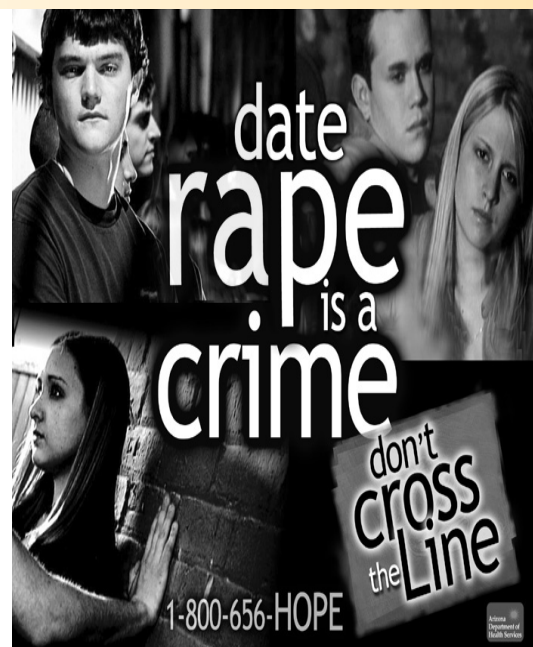
**4woman.gov**

The National Women's Health Information Center

### Rape Prevention and Education

The Office of Women's and Children's Health Rape Prevention and Education Program won a first place Health Education Media Makers Yearly (HEMMY) Award from the Arizona Public Health Association for its first Public Services Announcement on Rape Prevention and Education. The announcement has been running statewide since June 2004. The Rape Prevention and Education message is about date rape and the importance of consent.

For more information on Rape Prevention and Education services in your area, call Carol Hensell, Rape Prevention and Education Program Manager, at (602) 542-7343.





## BE AWARE to BE SAFE

Did you know that one in three women in our country has been or is currently a victim of domestic violence? According to some sources half of all women will be victims of domestic violence at some time in their lives.

Domestic violence is about power and control. Domestic violence is NEVER the victim's fault! Use of violence in an intimate relationship is always a choice.

Domestic violence is a *pattern* of coercive, controlling behaviors. Abusive people attempt to have power *over* and control of another person. Domestic violence is not just hitting, slapping, or killing. It can also be verbal, sexual, financial, spiritual, and psychological. Victims are often isolated by their abusive partners, and not allowed to visit with friends, family, or neighbors.

Women who leave their abusive partners are often in more danger than if they had stayed in the abusive relationship. Seventy-five percent of the women who have

died in a violent relationship had already left their abusive partner.

Most victims of domestic violence are women, although men can also be victims. Domestic violence occurs in all segments of society. Victims may be the person who delivers our newspaper in the morning, the pastor of our church, our political leader, our mother or daughter, or the woman next door.

If you or someone you know are a victim of domestic violence, please call your local domestic violence shelter for help. You can call the Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence (AzCADV) for help locating the shelter nearest you at (602) 279-2900, (800) 782-6400, and (800) 787-3224 (TDD). You can also call the National 24-hour hotline at (800) 799-7233 and (800) 787-3224 (TDD). The Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence is also available if you just desire to talk with someone, or are looking for more information about domestic violence.

### **The Office of Women's and Children's Health Domestic Violence Services – the Rural Safe Home Network.**

The Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) receives federal funds from the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act for the prevention of domestic violence and services to victims.

These funds are used primarily to provide services to the rural areas of the state utilizing Rural Safe Home Networks.

The Rural Safe Home Network programs in Arizona can be described as an alliance of local businesses, agencies and individuals in our communities who have come together to break the cycle of abuse. The larger state network, the Rural Safe Home Network, is composed of nine domestic violence service providers. It is a program for the prevention of family violence, and is committed to bringing the latest information and methods to break the cycle of violence and abuse in our communities.

Currently, the ADHS funds five safe homes and the Arizona Coalition Against Domestic Violence. In addition, funds are provided for legal advocacy for victims and counseling services for children living in families experiencing domestic violence.

For more information about the Rural Safe Home Network in Arizona, please contact JAnn Pope, Program Manager, at (602) 542-7341.

### **For more information about domestic violence check out these sites:**

- <http://endabuse.org> - information about health, domestic violence, and battered immigrant issues.
- [www.ncadv.org](http://www.ncadv.org) - link page to many national web sites and resources.
- [www.nwnetwork.org](http://www.nwnetwork.org) - for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender population.
- [www.elderabusecenter.org](http://www.elderabusecenter.org) - elder abuse issues.
- [www.cpsdv.org](http://www.cpsdv.org) - sexual assault and domestic violence; also has a focus on the religious response to domestic violence.

# CHILD CARE TRAINING

## Child Care Health Consultation Class Graduates

On November 18, 2004, nine individuals from across the state were honored at an informal graduation ceremony for Arizona's second class of trained child care health consultants.

The graduating class included five registered nurses, including public health nurses from three different counties and two school nurses who have pre-schools on their campuses; a physician; a health educator; a University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Youth and Family agent; and an early childhood specialist.

The ceremony was hosted by the Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families. Lisa Glow brought congratulations from the governor to the graduates.



*To provide the best quality care for every child, caregivers need to have access to reliable consultation on available issues related to health and safety.*

This training was funded as part of an intergovernmental agreement between Arizona Department of Health Services Office of Women's and Children's Health, and the Pima County Health Department.

Thirty-eight states have prepared child care health consultants utilizing the curriculum of the National Training Institute for Child Care Health Consultants (NTICCHC) developed by the University of North Carolina's School of Public Health. The facilitators for this training course were Kathi Ford, RN, BC and Patty Merk, MS, both graduates of the National Training Institute's Training of Trainers for Child Care Health Consultants. Ford has been a public health nurse and child care health Consultant for 17 years and Merk has been on

the faculty of University of Arizona Cooperative Extension for 13 years.

Most child care providers are not trained health professionals, yet they frequently deal with child health issues involving physical and mental health in areas like nutrition, physical safety, oral health and hygiene, and developmental disabilities. To provide the best quality care for every child, caregivers need to have access to reliable consultation on available issues related to health and safety. This is the role of the child care health consultant.

In addition to providing consultation services to child care settings, the graduates will be encouraged to participate in the planning and development of a statewide child care health consultation system being shaped through the activities of the State School Readiness Board.

# CHILDREN HEALTH UPDATES

## High-Risk Perinatal Program / Newborn Intensive Care Program Advisory Group Recommendations Update

The High Risk Perinatal Program (HRPP)/Newborn Intensive Care Program (NICP) maintains a system of care to assure that risk appropriate care is available and accessible to high-risk pregnant women and critically ill newborns in Arizona regardless of location or ability to pay. The Program provides maternal and neonatal transport services, hospital and inpatient physician services, and community nursing services.

Last year, an advisory group composed of leaders in the perinatal community was formed to evaluate HRPP/NICP in relationship to the Arizona perinatal system and identify ways to restructure the program to make it more cost effective and better able to support the needs of the system. Three focus areas and goals were identified: follow-up care, advocacy and funding, and systems-based infrastructure. Subcommittees for each of these focus areas met

separately to discuss aspects of the perinatal system and make recommendations for change. Recommendations made by the HRPP/NICP Advisory Group have served as the basis for identifying program priorities and assigning resources. Please go to: <http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/owch/pdf/recommendation.pdf> for a brief overview of some recommendations and the progress made to date in addressing them.



## CHILD FATALITY NEWS

### Child Fatality Review Program Releases 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Report

On November 15<sup>th</sup>, the Office of Women's and Children's Health released the Arizona Child Fatality Review Program Eleventh Annual Report. The Child Fatality Review Team is headed by Dr. Mary Rimsza of the Arizona Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and Arizona State University's School of Health Management and Policy.

Through the Child Fatality Review Program, local teams from across the state review deaths to determine which deaths could reasonably have been prevented. The report is based on extensive reviews of 937 deaths of children under age 18 in 2003 and includes recommendations for elected officials, other policy makers, and the Arizona public.

Overall, the report concluded the deaths of 240 Arizona children, or 26 percent of all child deaths in 2003 could have been prevented through the use of safety belts and infant restraints, secured pool fences, locked storage of guns, and other preventive practices.

Motor vehicle crashes killed 105 children in 2003, and nine out of ten of these deaths could have been prevented. Driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs and the driver's youth were factors in many deaths. Only one in five children who died as the result of riding or driving in a car or truck were using restraints. Motor vehicles crashes have consistently been the most common cause of preventable death for Arizona children.

The State Child Fatality Team recommends supporting legislation that will increase seat belt use by children and adults, supporting legislation to increase restrictions on teen driving, and messages to parents to model safe behaviors for children through their use of seat belts, always buckling up their children, and placing them in the back seat of the car, in the center, whenever possible.

Drowning deaths continue to be a major cause of preventable deaths in young children, especially those under five-years old. Twenty-eight children drowned in 2003, 14 were children under age five who died in backyard pools. The vast majority of these deaths could have been prevented by better supervision of the child and secured pool fencing.

The Child Fatality Review Team recommends uniform, statewide pool-fencing ordinance that restricts young children's access to pools, and education of parents that they should never leave children unsupervised around water.

Homicide, suicide and child maltreatment accounted for 79 of the deaths in 2003. Violent deaths are major public health concerns in Arizona and are significant categories of preventable deaths.

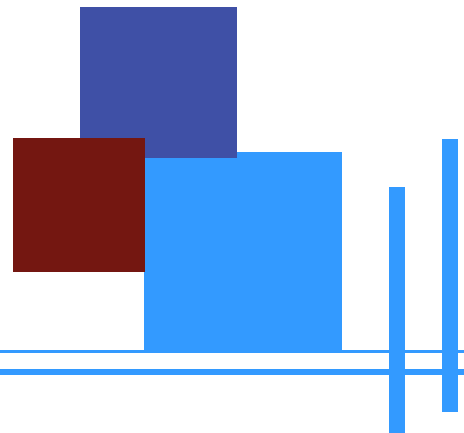
The number of children who died of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, or SIDS, has decreased in recent years. In 2003, there were 33 such deaths. A major reason for the decrease is the American Academy of Pediatrics, Back to Sleep, Campaign, which encourages parents to put infants to

sleep on their backs instead of on their stomachs. Part of the decrease may also be due to increased identification of deaths due to suffocation, which may have previously been attributed to SIDS.

In 2003, 19 infants died due to suffocation. Suffocation deaths included in this category were primarily the result of overlying during co-sleeping with adults or positional asphyxia. There were three deaths due to choking.

Dr. Rimsza noted that while we have made progress in decreasing the number of preventable deaths in some categories such as SIDS, there is still much work to be done in preventing deaths due to unintentional injuries, especially motor vehicle crashes and drowning.

A copy of the full report is available at <http://www.azdhs.gov/cfhs/azcf/download.htm>



## SAFETY FIRST

### Website Now Provides Instantaneous Information on Recalls

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Ever wonder where you can go to find breaking news about product recalls? Parents, consumers, and reporters need to look no further than [www.Recalls.gov](http://www.Recalls.gov).

A new feature on the Website called "Recent Recalls" allows everyone to view recall announcements the very moment they are made public by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, the Food and Drug Administration, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, or the U.S. Coast Guard. The "Recent Recalls" link is the only source on the Internet for up-to-the-minute information on all government recalls.

Nearly one million visitors have used Recalls.gov as a one-stop-shop for recall announcements from the fed-

eral government. The site also contains safety warnings and information on how to report a problem with a consumer product, cosmetic, motor vehicle, boat, food product or environmental product. "With the holiday season in full swing, we are encouraged to see that many parents and consumers have logged on to [www.Recalls.gov](http://www.Recalls.gov)" said Consumer Product Safety Commission Chairman Hal Stratton.

"Before purchasing or giving any gift, particularly one intended for a child, visit the site and check to make sure the item does not pose a hazard."

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"By working with our federal, corporate and non-profit partners, we hope to serve the public more efficiently, while saving countless lives and preventing injuries," Stratton added.

**TIP:** *"Before purchasing or giving any gift, particularly one intended for a child, visit the site and check to make sure the item does not pose a hazard."*

- Hal Stratton

### Just Recently...

For example, consumers can go to Recalls.gov and find information about the following recalls which were recently announced:

- 225,000 York furnaces which pose a fire hazard.
- 700,000 Bowflex fitness machines which can break during use.
- 30,000 RMM Corp. pressure washers which can overheat and catch fire.
- 15,000 ready-to-eat meals by Kraft Foods Global which were mislabeled and contain a known allergen.
- Dietary herbal supplements by Kingsway Trading which could pose a possible health risk.



Your Online Resource for Recalls

### New Email Address

As a reminder all email addresses for the Arizona Department of Health Services end in [azdhs.gov](mailto:azdhs.gov). Our new website is [www.azdhs.gov](http://www.azdhs.gov) and our old email addresses are no longer valid.

## NEW Programs at OWCH

The Office of Women's and Children's Health welcomes the Injury Prevention Program and Emergency Services for Children and Safe Kid program to our Office. Eleanor Strang is the Program Manager for the Injury Program and Jan Kerrigan is the Program Manager for Emergency Services and Safe Kids.

The Injury Prevention Program in Arizona is a systematic effort to reduce deaths and injuries from intentional and unintentional causes like motor vehicle crashes, poisoning, falls, drowning, shooting, burns, assault and self harm.

The program is funded by a grant from the Centers for Disease Control. Its focus is on collecting and publishing data about injuries and working with various individuals and organizations to develop strategies to avoid them.

Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) is a national initiative designed to reduce child and youth disability due to severe illness and injury. Medical personnel, parents and volunteers, community groups and businesses, and national organizations and foundations all

contribute to the effort. A federal grant program supports Arizona's initiative. EMSC is an essential component of Emergency Medical



Services or EMS systems. Arizona Safe Kids is a statewide program dedicated to the prevention of unintentional injury for Arizona's children under 15 years of age. Arizona

Safe Kids is a member of the National Safe Kids Campaign. Local Safe Kids Coalitions throughout Arizona receive leadership and technical Assistance from Arizona Safe Kids.

## NEW EMPLOYEES

The Office of Women's and Children's Health is growing with new staff as well as new programs. The staff that have joined us in the last six months are:

### A Warm Welcome to...

Joan Agostinelli, Assessment and Evaluation Section Manager  
 Rosemary Celaya, Customer Service Representative  
 Ophelia Chischilly, Information Processing Specialist  
 Porsha Coleman, Administrative Secretary  
 Carolyn Cox, Information Processing Specialist  
 Mary Ellen Cunningham, Health Program Manager  
 Thomas Gustafson, Information Processing Specialist  
 Daryl Hansen, Administrative Secretary  
 Jan Kerrigan, Safe Kids/Emergency Services for Children Program Manager  
 Mary-Teresa Lopez, Administrative Assistant  
 Therese Neal, Child Fatality Program Manager  
 Yvonne Newman, Information Processing specialist  
 Ann Reece, Administrative Assistant  
 Lisa Schamus, Research and Statistical Analyst Chief  
 Susie Scott, Reproductive Health Program Manager  
 Ellie Strang, Injury Prevention Program Manager  
 Christy Taylor, Newborn Hearing Screening Specialist  
 Mary Lou Wilson, Information Processing Specialist

All of these staff can be reached at (602) 364-1400 and are here to help you.

**The mission of the Office of Women's and Children's Health (OWCH) is to strengthen the family and community by promoting and improving the health status of women and children.**

**Our Vision is: Healthy Women...Healthy Children...Healthy Tomorrow**